For A Small Entity

**Applicants** 

Gary S. Fanton et al.

For

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CLEARING

**OBSTRUCTIONS FROM SURGICAL CUTTING INSTRUMENTS** 

## **EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION**

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV386850075US. Date of Deposit February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this transmittal letter and the other papers and fees identified in this transmittal letter as being transmitted herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Hon. Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ATTN: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR UNEXECUTED ORIGINAL PATENT APPLICATION

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the [X] specification; [X] claims; [X] abstract; [X] unexecuted declaration; [X] printEFS data sheet, for the above-identified patent application.

Also transmitted herewith are:

## [X] 16 sheets of:

| L | ] | Formal | d | raw | /ings. |
|---|---|--------|---|-----|--------|
|   |   |        |   |     |        |

[X] Informal drawings. Formal drawings will be filed during the pendency of this application.

|  | (cour   | ntry)       |          | (app      | ln. no.)                | - 44      | (filed)    |   |                 |  |  |
|--|---|-------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|------------|---|-----------------|--|--|
|  | (cour   | ntry)       |          | (app      | ln. no.)                | <u> </u>  | (filed)    | - |                 |  |  |
| fron   | from which priority is claimed.   |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| An assignment of the invention to              |   |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| []   | [] A check in the amount of \$40.00 to cover the recording fee.   |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| []   | [] Please charge \$40.00 to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 in payment of the recording fee. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith. |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| Small entity status is respectfully requested. |   |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| Nonpublication Request.                        |   |             |          |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
| Nor  | npublicati  | ion Rec     | quest.   |           |                         |           |            |   |                 |  |  |
|  | npublicati  |             | -        | culated a | as showr                | ı below   | :          |   |                 |  |  |
|  | _   | e has b     | een cald | culated a | as showr<br>NUM<br>EXTI | BER       | :<br>RATE  |   | FEE             |  |  |
|  | filing fe   | e has b     | een cald | culated a | NUM                     | BER       |            |   | FEE<br>\$385.00 |  |  |
| The  | filing fe   | e has b     | een cald | culated a | NUM                     | BER       |            | = |                 |  |  |
| The  | filing fe   | NUN<br>FILE | dBER     | 20        | NUM<br>EXTI             | BER<br>RA | RATE X \$9 |   | \$385.00        |  |  |

TOTAL

<u>\$811.00</u>

| ĮΧ  | A check in the amount of \$\frac{811.00}{11.00}\$ in payment of the filing fee is transmitted herewith.  |
|-----|--|
| []  | This application is being filed unaccompanied by a filing fee. The appropriate filing fee will be paid in response to a Notice to File Missing Parts, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f).   |
| [X] | The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16, in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith. |
| []  | Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence: This is a [] continuation-in-part, of Application No.:, filed   |
| []  | Please charge \$to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 in payment of the filing fee. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.  |

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PATENTS Attorney Docket No. FAN-1

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicants** 

Gary S. Fanton et al.

Application No.

To Be Assigned

Filed

Herewith

For

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CLEARING

**OBSTRUCTIONS FROM SURGICAL CUTTING** 

**INSTRUMENTS** 

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ATTN: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

NONPUBLICATION REQUEST UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(a)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(a), applicant hereby requests that the above-identified patent application, which is being filed concurrently herewith, not be published under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b). It is hereby certified that the invention disclosed in the application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas A. Oguss Reg. No. 48,469 Agent for Applicants

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